

Friday 14 November 2025

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers, and Ward School Whānau,

on...
Together
Respectful
Adaptable
Creative
Kind

We are officially into the last half of the term! The first half of term 4 has been busy as usual. We are looking forward to these last few weeks as classes look to complete their current units of work. Our year 8s have started their preparation for this year's graduation, and I know the end of the year will be here before we know it. Our whakatauki this year has been **Pai tū, pai hinga, nā wai, nā oti** - "Through trials and tribulations, the work will be completed. We know this time of year can be difficult for some students as they look to finish up after a busy year, but the work is not completed until that last day! With your support, we are encouraging all tamariki to maintain the high standards and TRACK values they set for themselves. We want to make sure we go into the summer holiday on a high.

Teacher Appointment

I am pleased to announce that we have appointed Lisa McFarlane to fill the Teacher Role in Rock Pool for 2026. Lisa is an experienced teacher who has previously taught in Cheviot and Renwick and is currently teaching in the Chatham Islands. Lisa has strengths in Literacy, Numeracy, and play-based inquiry learning. I know she will be a great addition to the team.

District Athletics Day

On Tuesday, we had a small team represent Ward School at the district athletics. Congratulations to Ashley Shadbolt, Maia Watson, Madi Lunn, Angus McClintock, William Vavasour, Mason Lloyd, Harriet Lunn and Harry Dowling. All of our students competed to the highest of standards. Special Mention to Mason Lloyd, who was 2nd in the Year 5 Boys 60 meters, and 2nd in High Jump and 3rd in Long Jump, also Harriet Lunn, who was 2nd in both the Year 5 girls 60 meters and 100 meters. These are fantastic results against the best in Marlborough. We are very proud! In addition to this, our Year 5/6 team won their small schools relay. All in all, it was a fantastic day for Ward School.







New Carpets

Ward School is part of the New Zealand small and rural schools development programme. This programme is run by the government with the aim of making, building, and classroom improvements in small and rural schools throughout NZ. As such, we will be getting new carpets in all 3 classrooms next week. There will be a little bit of disruption to classes as the team will work through a class at a time, starting with Rock Pool, to get the job done. While work is being done in the rooms, the classes will be working in the Library. While it is not ideal to have the job done during term time, if we don't take the opportunity presented, we will move to the back of the queue and possibly have to wait some considerable time to get the mahi done. We appreciate your understanding and support to help make this happen.

Swimming Pool

We have had a few inquiries about the Swimming Pool. We are working hard to get this up and running. Unfortunately, we have a couple of maintenance issues to sort through before we can make it operational. We will let teachers, classes and the community know as soon as we get it open. We will be looking to rent pool keys for use over the summer. If you have not already, please return your pool keys from last year so Candi can organise.

School Survey

We had 16 responses to our recent school survey. A massive thank you to those families who took the time to respond. With the next newsletter, I will send a survey summary outlining the key points of the survey. We are also using this information to help construct the school's strategic plan for the next 3-year period. On Monday, we had a fantastic working session on the plan with the Board of Trustees. We will be looking to finalise this in the next couple of weeks and will share it with the community when it is complete.

Important Term 4 Dates

Date	Event
November 14	Year 7/8 Tech
November 24	Year 7/8 Tech
December 1	Year 6 Tech Taster Day
December 8-10	Year 8 Camp - Hanmer Springs
December 17	School Prizegiving
December 18	Last Day of School (Half Day)



Just for Laughs! (aka Mr Sangster's Dad Joke of the week!)

Did you hear the rumour about butter?

Well, I'm not going to spread it!

Ngā mihi nui, Aaron Sangster - Principal/Tumuaki



















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